



LOYOLA COLLEGE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

presents

"WHO RIDE ON WHITE HORSES"

by RICHARD BREEN *and* HARRY SCHNIBBE

Loyola Auditorium • April 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 1942

Dedication

Reverendissimo Domno

Laurentio Patricio Whelan, D.D.

hoc nos nostrae pietatis pignus dedicamus.

Te Martyrum Candidatus

Ah, see the fair chivalry come, the companions of Christ!

White Horsemen, who ride on white horses, the Knights of God!

They, for their Lord and their Lover who sacrificed

All, save the sweetness of treading where He first trod.

These through the darkness of death, the dominion of night,

Swept, and they woke in white places at morning tide:

They saw with their eyes, and sang for joy of the sight,

They saw with their eyes the Eyes of the Crucified.

Now, whithersoever He goeth, with Him they go:

White Horsemen, who ride on white horses, oh fair to see!

They ride, where the Rivers of Paradise flash and flow,

White Horsemen, with Christ their Captain: for ever He!

—LIONEL JOHNSON.

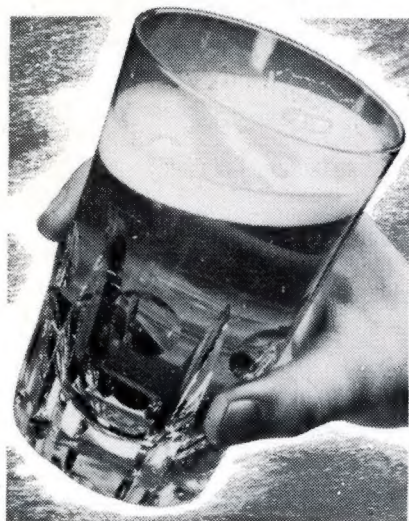
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Programme

"WHO RIDE ON WHITE HORSES"

PROLOGUE

A HALL IN OXFORD—1566

ACT ONE

Scene One AN OXFORD QUADRANGLE September 3, 1566
Scene Two STEPS OF DUBLIN CATHEDRAL four years later
Scene Three CARDINAL ALLEN'S STUDY IN ROME three years later

— Ten-minute intermission —

ACT TWO

Scene One ON THE ROAD FROM DOVER June 23, 1580
Scene Two PALACE OF THE QUEEN several months later
Scene Three THE GUILD HALL AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON Spring, 1581
Scene Four YATES MANSION AT LYFORD June, 1581

— Ten-minute intermission —

ACT THREE

Scene One LEICESTER HOUSE July 26, 1581
Scene Two WESTMINSTER BAR November 20, 1581

EPILOGUE

T H E S T O R Y

He died in the morning, with a smile on his lips and a prayer for his enemies. And with the passing of his gay and gallant spirit, something went out of England also. A warmth; a flame. The Queen of England, who had sent him to his death, shivered a little in her palace. It seemed as though a coldness had crept over England; a mist across the face of England's sun.

She had killed him because she wanted an England to her own image, and he had stood in the way. Now that he was dead, she had indeed the England that she wanted: a cold and cruel England made to the image of a cold and cruel Queen. That was perhaps her bitterest hour; the hour of her victory.

It was the morning of December 1, 1581.

Edmund Campion was his name. A name not unfamiliar to Oxford, indeed, beloved; at least in the days before Elizabeth's thirst for power without limit, power even over the consciences of her subjects, had divided men's allegiance and begun a quarrel that has lasted half a thousand years. He was Oxford's boast, then; and when the Queen and Lord Dudley paid a visit to the University, he was chosen to deliver the oration of welcome. Elizabeth's quick, shrewd eyes noted the clean-cut

grace of him, the compelling charm; but still more what lay within: the keen intellect, the lively wit. Elizabeth was no fool.

Here was the instrument that she needed: the mind and the spirit that could lend solidity to her mushroom Church, invest with dignity her servile priesthood. Here was the orator whose fiery eloquence could burn from the tenacious memory of Englishmen their loyalty to the ancient Faith. Here was the scholar to preach the Gospel according to Elizabeth.

The Queen of England had found a perfect tool at Oxford; and she stretched forth her hand to grasp it. Now Edmund Campion was quite willing to be used as a tool—until he conversed with one. Lord Dudley, the Queen's Minister, quite unconsciously made it clear to him that the perfect tool cannot afford the luxury of a conscience. That was the beginning of Edmund Campion's tragedy: the realization that he must choose between his Queen and his conscience.

He fled from Oxford to escape choosing; but he could not escape Campion. He could not escape Campion the honest thinker, who insisted on reading the Scriptures and the Fathers, and who found Elizabeth's Church proved counterfeit on

"Your Majesty we give you this Our University—to Elizabeth of England, and to the England of Elizabeth!"—CAMPION.



*"Do you know what this means?—Fines,
and fights and rebellion!" — CAMPION.*

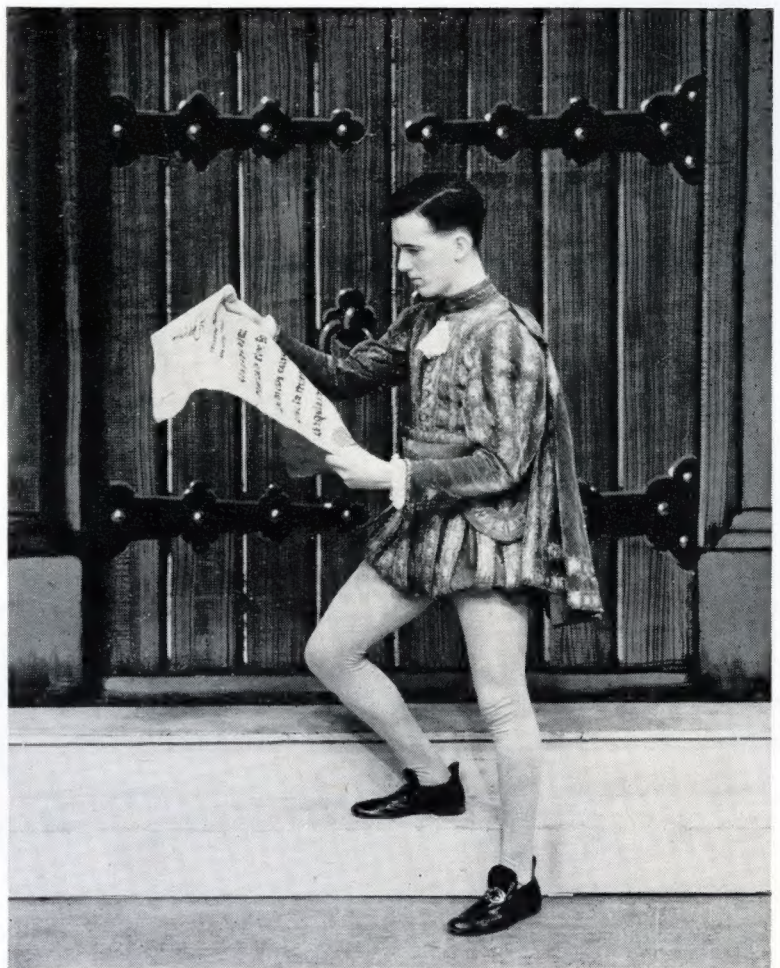
almost every page. He could not escape Campion the great of heart, every fibre of whose being thrilled to the challenge flung at him by an Irishman from the steps of Dublin cathedral:

"We are the kind who will do the fighting and dying, but who will do the baptizing and saying of the Masses? Faith, it is not the fighters we need. God knows there will be enough of those. It is the men of God we need. It is men like yourself."

That was the beginning of Edmund Campion's triumph: the decision to cast his lot with Christ and conscience. He went to Rome.

He found an old friend there—Robert Persons, who had joined the Company of Jesus. He fell in love with it instantly: this strange new Society, built along the lean, swift lines of light cavalry, appealing both to reason and to action. He joined it; and it sent him back to England.

He was a priest now, and therefore to Elizabeth an animal to be hunted; a traitor to the State who must be killed without mercy. It was treason in England then even to harbour a priest of the Catholic religion; how much more to be one? To such madness of oppression did the thirst for power absolute drive the aging Queen.



In Campion the hunted priest all the mischievousness of the Oxford undergraduate came to life again. He took positive pleasure in baffling the spies and soldiers of the Government; he thrust his pamphlets under Elizabeth's very nose; his escapades became the talk of Europe, drew attention to Elizabeth's persecution of Catholics, and wrecked the diplomatic marriage then being arranged between the Queen of England and the Duke of Anjou.

But Campion was playing a grim game, which could have only one conclusion. He was caught. Elizabeth had him brought to her secretly. She made him one last appeal. She knew Campion alive would be more useful to her than Campion dead. But Campion refused to compromise. He had been sent back to England with a definite commission: to keep alive the flame of the true Faith. If that was treason, then he was content to die. But he could not betray that commission to escape death. Not for the wealth of a kingdom, even. That was his tragedy. And his triumph.

*"And I do not trust you my dear Duke, anymore
than I trust Edmund Campion". — ELIZABETH.*

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H. P. BELL, Montreal Star

Cast of Characters

IN THE ORDER OF THEIR APPEARANCE

(NOTE: Major Roles are printed in Capitals)

EDMUND CAMPION	David Tobin Asselin
ROBERT PERSONS	David Sutherland
SNYDER	Howard Burrowes
TOBY MATTHEWS	John McEachern
PIERSON	William Humes
KINCAID	John Bujold
QUEEN ELIZABETH	John E. O'Brien
ROBERT, LORD DUDLEY, afterwards Earl of Leicester	Robert O'Connell
JOHN PASCAL	Ralph Farrell
LORD SANDFORD, Regent of Oxford	Alan Peter Shaughnessy
MORAN	Patrick Cody
O'NEILL	Frank Higgins
O'COFFEY	John Wickham
JOHN	Patrick Wickham
MESSANGER	William Humes
CAPTAIN	James Mell
CARDINAL ALLEN	John Colford
STEPHEN SLEDD	Frank Higgins
BROTHER RALPH	Gregory Driscoll
GILBERT	Howard Burrowes
POUNDE	Robert Meagher
DUC d'ANJOU	Guy Desjardins
SIR PHILIP SIDNEY	Patrick Devaux
JOHN SHAKESPEARE	David Sutherland
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE	George Vanier
CONSTABLE	John Bujold
GEORGE ELIOT	Hayward Dansereau
WATCH	John McEachern
YATES	Desmond Polan
THOMAS	James Mell
FORD	Alan Peter Shaughnessy
COLLINGTON	Patrick Wickham
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ANDERSON, Queen's Counsel	Hugh Mahoney
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE	J. Kevin McKenna

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<i>Assistant Stage Managers</i>	MERVYN LABELLE BASIL McQUILLAN RICHARD DAWSON DONNELLY BUSSIÈRE	CHRISTOPHER GRIBBIN LORNE McGUIRE ROBERT SWINTON JOHN COLFORD
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